

Media Statement

Allied Health Sector Needs Digital Health Training and Education

20 February 2025

The Allied Health Digital Transformation Survey Report [AHPA_Report+Final.pdf](#) highlights the gaps in workplace readiness of allied health professionals.

The comprehensive Survey conducted by the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) in collaboration with AHPA (Allied Health Professionals Australia) clearly sets out the barriers and enablers needed to improve workplace readiness.

“We welcome the Allied Health Digital Transformation Survey Report as an insightful and timely guide to what needs to be undertaken to strengthen the digital health capability and capacity of our allied health workforce,” said AIDH CEO, Anja Nikolic.

The ADHA / AHPA survey identified training and support as a key area for improvement; with well over half of those surveyed (62%) saying their digital training was self-taught. Only 38% of survey participants received training from their employer, with 31% receiving training from a software provider.

“Many allied health professionals acknowledged they looked to their colleagues and online resources before seeking digital health information from professional associations.

“AIDH recommends establishing benchmark skills and education in health information sharing, digital health and AI, in the wider context of health funding, technologies and services. Training in digital health needs to be embedded in curriculums and be an integral part of continuous professional development,” Ms Nikolic said.

AIDH welcomes the Survey recognising the role of the Australasian Institute of Digital Health (AIDH):

“The partnership between the [Australian Digital Health] Agency and the AIDH could be leveraged to assist with delivery of education and training as appropriate. These results suggest the importance of making the required education available on demand, tailoring education to the workplace setting and area of care ...”

The Survey showed how much more is needed in getting My Health Record to function as intended. Over half of respondents (56%) indicated they did not know how to use My Health Record well, while 43% of allied health practitioners had privacy and security concerns with My Health Record.

“Many allied health practitioners work as small business owners, often running a service from a home or standalone setting. As such, they may not have the digital supports and technology needed to use My Health Record. It cannot be assumed that all allied health practitioners have access to digital technologies; or have the ongoing ICT supports needed to be digitally capable.

“AHPA’s survey confirmed that Allied Health professionals understand the benefits of using digital health and they want to adopt digital tools. The barriers this survey identified, including workplace readiness, must be acted upon through greater investment in digital health skills and training,” Ms Nikolic said.

ABOUT AIDH

The **Australasian Institute of Digital Health (AIDH)** is dedicated to advancing digital health through education, innovation, and collaboration. With our independent voice in digital health, our mission is to enhance healthcare delivery and outcomes through the integration and application of digital technologies.

Our growing community of individual and organisational members, share a vision of “healthier lives, digitally enabled”. Together, we represent a unified and influential voice for the progression of digital health and health informatics.

AIDH’s professional development opportunities ensure healthcare professionals are equipped with the latest digital health skills and knowledge. By empowering the workforce with digital health literacy, AIDH drives transformational healthcare and ultimately enhances patient outcomes.

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For more information about AIDH visit the [website](#)